

IN THE CLAIMS

By this submission, claims 2-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 17 are cancelled, claims 1, 5, 8, 11, 14, and 18 are amended, and new claims 25 and 26 are added herein. The status of all claims is provided below.

1. (Currently amended) A method of characterizing a risk of future cerebral vasospasm in a subject suffering from a subarachnoid hemorrhage, comprising:

determining the presence or amount of a plurality of subject-derived markers in a sample obtained from said subject, wherein said plurality of markers are independently selected from the group consisting of specific markers of neural tissue injury, markers related to blood pressure regulation, markers related to inflammation, and markers related to apoptosis, provided that one or more of said subject-derived markers are selected from the group consisting of neural cell adhesion molecule (NCAM), vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), B-type natriuretic peptide (BNP), NT-pro BNP, pro-BNP, matrix metalloprotease-9 (MMP-9), caspase-3, and von Willebrand factor (vWF), or markers related thereto; and

correlating the presence or amount of said plurality of markers to said risk of a future cerebral vasospasm in said subject.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 [[4]], wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise NCAM or a marker related thereto.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 [[6]], wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise caspase-3 or a marker related thereto.
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 [[9]], wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise VEGF or a marker related thereto.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Cancelled)
14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 [[12]], wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise BNP or a marker related thereto.
15. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise at least one specific marker of neural tissue injury, at least one marker related to inflammation, and at least one marker related to apoptosis.
16. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise at least one marker related to blood pressure regulation.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 [[7]], wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise VEGF, NCAM, and caspase-3.
19. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is from a human.
20. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, serum, and plasma.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the assay method is an immunoassay method.
22. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the correlating step comprises determining the concentration of each of said plurality of subject-derived markers, and individually comparing each marker concentration to a threshold level.
23. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the correlating step comprises determining the concentration of each of said plurality of subject-derived markers, calculating a single index value based on the concentration of each of said plurality of subject-derived markers, and comparing the index value to a threshold level.
24. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises determining a temporal change in at least one of said subject-derived markers, and wherein said temporal change is used in said correlating step.
25. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise MMP-9 or a marker related thereto.
26. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of subject-derived markers comprise vWF or a marker related thereto.